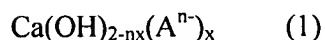


## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**1. (Currently amended)** Calcium hydroxide produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide in the presence of a silicon-based compound,

wherein the calcium hydroxide:

(a) is represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of ~~0.01~~0.001 to 0.2, and  $\text{A}^{n-}$  is  $\text{SiO(OH)}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_6^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_8(\text{OH})_4^{4-}$  or a mixture thereof.~~represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.~~)

(b) has an average secondary particle diameter, measured by a laser diffraction scattering method, of 0.1 to 7  $\mu\text{m}$ , and

(c) has a BET method specific surface area of 5 to 40  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

**2. (Cancelled)**

**3. (Withdrawn)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein  $\text{A}^{n-}$  is  $\text{SiO(OH)}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Al(OH)}_4^-$  or a mixture thereof.

**4. (Withdrawn)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the silicon-based compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of alkali silicate, a silicate, hydrated silicic acid, silicic acid anhydride, crystalline silicic acid, amorphous silica and an organosilicon compound.

**5. (Withdrawn)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the phosphorus-based compound is at least one phosphorus-based compound selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, condensed phosphoric acid, polyphosphoric acid, and their salts.

6. **(Withdrawn)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the aluminum-based compound is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of an aluminum salt, crystalline aluminum hydroxide, and amorphous aluminum hydroxide.

7. **(Withdrawn)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the inorganic acid is at least one inorganic acid selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, and sulfuric acid.

8-10. **(Cancelled)**

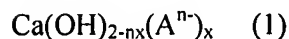
11. **(Previously presented)** A surface-treated calcium hydroxide characterized in that the calcium hydroxide of claim 1 is surface-treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of (a) a higher fatty acid, (b) an alkali metal salt of a higher fatty acid, (c) a sulfuric ester of a higher alcohol, (d) an anionic surfactant, (e) a phosphoric ester, (f) a silane-, titanate- or aluminum-based coupling agent, (g) a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol, (h) a sorbitan fatty acid ester and (i) a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.

12. **(Currently amended)** A resin composition comprising:

- (i) 100 parts by weight of synthetic resin, and
- (ii) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide in the presence of a silicon-based compound,

wherein the calcium hydroxide:

(a) is represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.001 to 0.2, and  $\text{A}^{n-}$  is  $\text{SiO}(\text{OH})_3^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_6^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_8(\text{OH})_4^{4-}$  or a mixture thereof.) ~~represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based~~

~~compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.)~~

(b) has an average secondary particle diameter, measured by a laser diffraction scattering method, of 0.1 to 7  $\mu\text{m}$ , and

(c) has a BET method specific surface area of 5 to 40  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

**13. (Cancelled)**

**14. (Withdrawn)** The resin composition of claim 12, wherein  $\text{A}^{n-}$  is  $\text{SiO}(\text{OH})_3^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_4^-$  or a mixture thereof.

**15-16. (Cancelled)**

**17. (Currently amended)** A resin composition comprising:

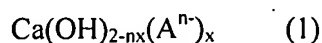
(i) 100 parts by weight of synthetic resin, and

(ii) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of surface-treated calcium hydroxide,

\_\_\_\_\_ wherein the surface-treated calcium hydroxide is a calcium hydroxide treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of (a) a higher fatty acid, (b) an alkali metal salt of a higher fatty acid, (c) a sulfuric ester of a higher alcohol, (d) an anionic surfactant, (e) a phosphoric ester, (f) a silane-, titanate- or aluminum-based coupling agent, (g) a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol and (h) a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid on the surface of a calcium hydroxide produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide in the presence of a silicon-based compound,

\_\_\_\_\_ wherein the calcium hydroxide:

(a) is represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.001 to 0.2, and  $\text{A}^{n-}$  is  $\text{SiO}(\text{OH})_3^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_6^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_8(\text{OH})_4^{4-}$  or a mixture thereof.)~~represents an~~

~~anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid).~~

(b) has an average secondary particle diameter, measured by a laser diffraction scattering method, of 0.1 to 7  $\mu\text{m}$ , and

(c) has a BET method specific surface area of 5 to 40  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

**18. (Original)** The resin composition of claim 12, wherein the synthetic resin is a polyvinyl chloride or fluorocarbon rubber.

**19. (Original)** The resin composition of claim 12, further comprising (iii) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of hydrotalcite.

**20. (Original)** The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the hydrotalcite is represented by the following formula (2):



(wherein  $\text{A}^{n-}$  represents  $\text{ClO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  or a mixture thereof, and x, y, z and m satisfy  $y + z = 1$ ,  $0.1 \leq x \leq 0.5$ ,  $0.5 \leq y \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq z \leq 0.5$  and  $0 \leq m < 1$ .)

**21. (Original)** The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the weight ratio CH/HT of (ii) the calcium hydroxide (CH) to (iii) the hydrotalcite (HT) is 1/9 to 9/1.

**22. (Original)** The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the hydrotalcite is a product calcined at 200°C or higher.

**23. (Original)** The resin composition of claim 19, wherein the hydrotalcite is surface-treated with at least one surface treating agent selected from the group consisting of (a) a higher fatty acid, (b) an alkali metal salt of a higher fatty acid, (c) a sulfuric ester of a higher alcohol, (d) an anionic surfactant, (e) a phosphoric ester, (f) a silane-, titanate- or aluminum-based coupling agent, (g) a fatty acid ester of a polyhydric alcohol and (h) a silicon-based compound, a

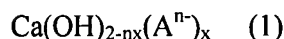
phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.

**24. (Original)** A molded article comprising the resin composition of claim 12.

**25. (Currently amended)** A stabilizer for synthetic resins which comprises a calcium hydroxide compound (CH) produced by reacting an aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt with an aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide in the presence of a silicon-based compound,

wherein the calcium hydroxide compound:

(a) is represented by the following formula (1):



(wherein n represents an integer of 1 to 4, x represents a number of 0.001 to 0.2, and  $\text{A}^{n-}$  is  $\text{SiO(OH)}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SiO}_2(\text{OH})_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6(\text{OH})_6^{2-}$ ,  $\text{SiO}_4^{4-}$ ,  $\text{Si}_4\text{O}_8(\text{OH})_4^{4-}$  or a mixture thereof.)~~represents an anion derived from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a silicon-based compound, a phosphorus-based compound, an aluminum-based compound, an inorganic acid and an organic acid.~~)

(b) has an average secondary particle diameter, measured by a laser diffraction scattering method, of 0.1 to 7  $\mu\text{m}$ , and

(c) has a BET method specific surface area of 5 to 40  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .

**26. (Original)** The stabilizer of claim 25, further comprising hydrotalcite (HT) and showing a CH/HT (weight) of 1/9 to 9/1.

**27. (Previously presented)** The stabilizer of claim 26, wherein the hydrotalcite is represented by the following formula (2):



(wherein  $\text{A}^{n-}$  represents  $\text{ClO}_4^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$  or a mixture thereof, and x, y, z and m satisfy  $y + z = 1$ ,  $0.1 \leq x \leq 0.5$ ,  $0.5 \leq y \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq z \leq 0.5$  and  $0 \leq m < 1$ .)

**28. (Previously presented)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution of a water-soluble calcium salt is selected from the group consisting of calcium chloride and calcium nitrate.

**29. (Previously presented)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution of an alkali metal hydroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide.

**30. (New)** The calcium hydroxide of claim 1, wherein the silicon-based compound is selected from the group consisting of water glass, synthetic amorphous silica and tetraethoxysilane.